

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1330

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CH US

SUBJ: LI HSIEN-NIEN STATEMENT ON NORMALIZATION

REF: PEKING 383
1. NCNA JULY 4, REPORTING VICE PREMIER LI HSIEN-NIEN'S
MEETING THAT DAY WITH ADMIRAL ZUMWALT, TOOK UNUSUAL STEP
OF CITING LI'S REITERATION OF THE PRC'S CONDITIONS FOR
NORMALIZATION OF SINO-US RELATIONS. ACCORDING TO THE
NCNA STORY, LI SAID THAT "THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE IS
THE FOUNDATION ON WHICH THE CURRENT SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS
REST. SUCH RELATIONS CAN CONTINUE TO BE IMPROVED,
PROVIDED BOTH SIDES, CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES, SERIOUSLY
IMPLEMENT THE PRINCIPLES LAID DOWN IN THE SHANGHAI
COMMUNIQUE. TO REALIZE THE NORMALIZATION OF THE
RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES,
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THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MUST FULFILL THE
FOLLOWING --SEVERANCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, WITH-
DRAWAL OF ITS TROOPS AND ABROGATION OF THE TREATY --
AND NONE OF THE THREE CAN BE DISPENSED WITH. AS TO
WHEN AND IN WHAT WAY THE CHINESE PEOPLE ARE
TO LIBERATE THEIR SACRED TERRITORY OF TAIWAN, THAT
IS ENTIRELY CHINA'S INTERNAL AFFAIR, WHICH BROOKS

NO INTERFERENCE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES".

2. COMMENT: LI'S REMARKS, AS REPORTED BY NCNA, AVOIDED FORMULATION THAT PRC WOULD HAVE TO USE FORCE TO LIBERATE TAIWAN, WHICH SURFACED PUBLICLY MOST RECENTLY THROUGH CHI TENG-KUEI'S INTERVIEW WITH JAPANESE NEWSMEN LAST MAY; UNDER THE BROAD FORMULA USED BY LI AND THE PRC OF COURSE STILL RETAINS ITS PUTATIVE OPTION TO USE FORCE. WE BELIEVE THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1972 THAT THE PRD'S OFFICIAL PRESS HAS CARRIED AUTHORITATIVE COMMENT ON THE SUBJECT OF NORMALIZATION. (LAST MARCH NCNA HAD COMMENTED INDIRECTLY ON THIS SUBJECT BY QUOTING PARTICIPANTS AT A NEW YORK RALLY IN SUPPORT OF THE PRC POSITION (REFTEL)..) GIVEN THE TIMING OF THE NEW REPORT, IT WAS CLEARLY MEANT AS A N ANSWER TO THE SECRETARY'S ASIA SOCIETY SPEECH AND OTHER ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS ON OUR CONCERNS REGARDING TAIWAN. LI'S WORDS ALSO SERVE OBVIOUS PURPOSE OF STAKING OUT THE PRC'S POSITION -- IN EFFECT UPDATING ITS SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE POSITION -- IN ADVANCE OF THE SECRETARY'S AUGUST VISIT TO PEKING.
DEAN

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